



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ONE CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MA 02114-2023**

August 25, 2005

Mr. John F. Novotny
Corporate Environmental Programs
General Electric Company
159 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Re: 2005 Final Cover Construction for Portion of Building 71 OPCA
Building 71 and Hill 78 On-Plant Consolidation Areas
GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Novotny:

This letter provides the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) approval of GE's July 15, 2005 letter summarizing the technical design and the proposed construction activities related to installing final cover over a portion of the Building 71 OPCA. Supplementary information was submitted by GE in a follow-up letter dated August 12, 2005 to address comments expressed by EPA in a teleconference conducted on August 10, 2005. Both letters are subject to the terms and conditions specified in the Consent Decree (CD) that was entered in U.S. District Court on October 27, 2000.

Pursuant to Paragraph 73 of the CD, EPA, after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), approves the July 15, 2005 letter, as supplemented by GE's August 12, 2005 letter.

EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling and/or require additional sampling or Response Actions, if necessary, to meet the requirements of the Consent Decree.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1328.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon M. Hayes".

Sharon M. Hayes
GE Facility Project Manager

cc:

Dean Tagliaferro, EPA
John Kilborn, EPA
Rose Howell, EPA
Holly Inglis, EPA
Sue Steenstrup, MDEP
Anna Symington, MDEP
Robert Bell, MDEP
Thomas Angus, MDEP
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